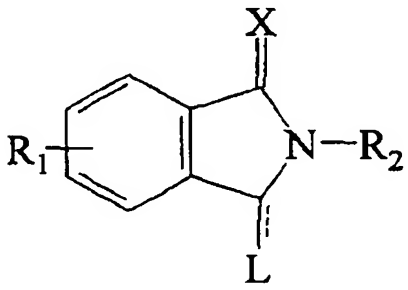
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound represented by formula (I):



(I)

wherein R_1s are the sane or different ~~1—3~~2 groups, each of them is selected from the group consisting of C1-3 alkyl ~~and C1—3 alkoxy~~; or when R_1s are two adjacent groups, the two R_1s taken together may form a saturated ~~or unsaturated~~ 5- or 6- membered cyclic group which may have 1 or 2 hetero atoms selected from the group consisting of sulfur, nitrogen and oxygen:

X is oxygen or sulfur:

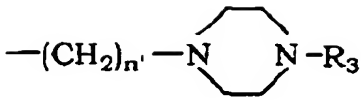
R_2 is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, benzyl, pyridyl, pyridylmethyl, pyrimidinyl, cyclohexyl, methylpiperazinyl, indanyl, 1,3-benzodioxolyl and naphthyl, all of which may optionally be substituted; provided that when R_2 is phenyl, the 3- and 4- positions of the phenyl moiety are not substituted by alkoxy groups at the same time:

------ represents a single bond or double bond: and

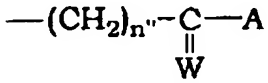
L is

$$—(CH_2)_n —H$$

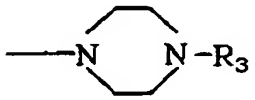
wherein n is an integer of 1-8;



wherein R_3 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, linear or branched C1-8 alkyl, C1-3 alkyl substituted by at least one fluorine atoms, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, cyclohexylmethyl, benzyl, 2-pyridyl and 2-pyrimidinyl groups, n' is an integer of 1-3;



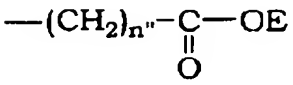
wherein W is oxygen or sulfur atom, A is selected from the group consisting of linear or branched C1-5 alkyl, 2-dimethylaminoethylamino, 2-thiazolylamino, 4-methylhomopiperazinyl, 4-piperidinopiperidino, dimethylaminoanilino, pyridylamino, piperidino, 4-ethoxycarbonyl piperidino, 4-carboxypiperidino and a group represented by formula (J)



(J)

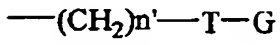
wherein R_3 is as defined above,

n" is an integer of 0-3;

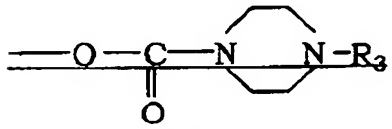


wherein E is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, linear or branched Cl-6 alkyl or alkenyl, C1-3 alkyl substituted by at least one fluorine atoms, 2-methoxyethyl, 2-methylthioethyl, 2-dimethylaminoethyl, phenyl, pyridyl, benzyl, pyridylmethyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, tetrahydro-2H-pyranyl, cyclohexylmethyl, 1-methyl-4-piperidyl indanyl, 1,3-benzodioxolyl and 1H-indolyl, wherein phenyl and pyridyl may optionally be substituted by

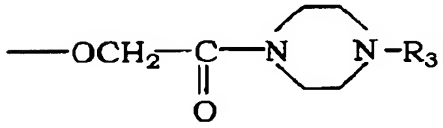
the group consisting of halogen, methyl, methoxy, isopropyl and allyl, ~~provided that when R_1 is 7 methoxy and R_2 is phenyl, E is not alkyl,~~ and n" is an interger of 0-3;



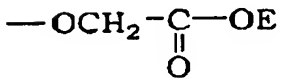
wherein T is oxygen, sulfur or NH, G is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, linear or branched Cl-5 alkyl, C1-3 alkyl substituted by at least one fluorine atoms, 2-methoxyethyl and alkylcarbonyl, n' is an integer of 1-3;



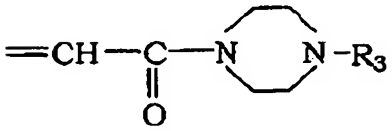
~~wherein R_3 is as defined above;~~



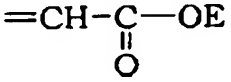
wherein R_3 is as defined above;



wherein E is as defined above;



wherein R_3 is as defined above; or



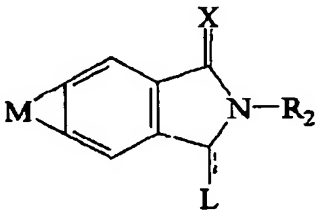
wherein E is as defined above

or a salt thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein R_1s are two groups and selected from the group consisting of methyl[[,]] and ethyl ~~and methoxy~~.

3. (Original) The compound of Claim 2, wherein R_1 is 5,6-dimethyl.

4. (Currently Amended) The compound of Claim 1, which is represented by formula (I-1)



(I-1)

wherein M represents together with the isoindoline structure a saturated ~~or unsaturated~~ 5- or 6-membered cyclic group which may optionally have 1 or 2 hetero atoms selected from the group consisting of sulfur, nitrogen and oxygen;

X, R_2 and L are as defined in Claim 1

or a salt thereof.

5. (Original) The compound of Claim 4, wherein M is selected from the group consisting of

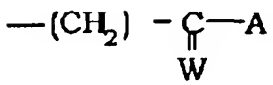
$-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$

$-CH_2OCH_2-$ and

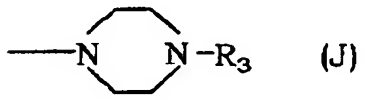
$-OCH_2O-$.

6. (Previously presented) The compound of Claim 1, wherein R_2 is an optionally substituted phenyl or an optionally substituted pyridyl.

7. (Previously presented) The compound of Claim 1, wherein L is

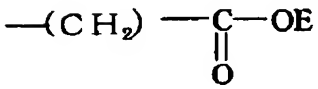


wherein W is oxygen, A is selected from the group consisting of linear or branched Cl-5 alkyl and a group of formula (J):



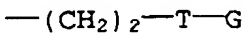
wherein R_3 is methyl or isopropyl.

8. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 1 wherein L is



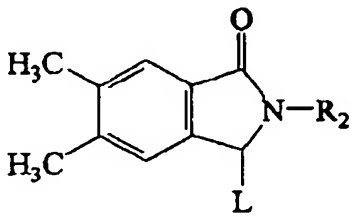
wherein E is selected from the group consisting of propyl, isobutyl and phenyl substituted by at least one of methyl and/or methoxy.

9. (Previously presented) The compound of any one of Claim 1, wherein L is

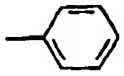
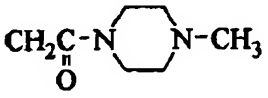
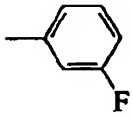
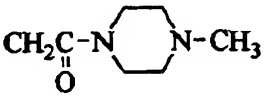
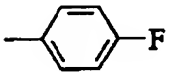
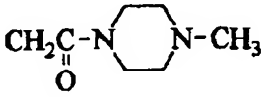
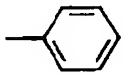
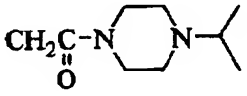
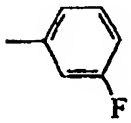
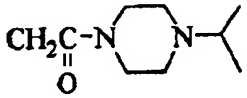
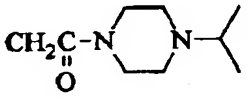
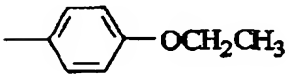
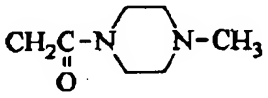


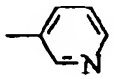
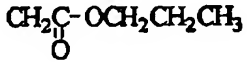
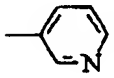
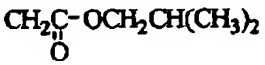
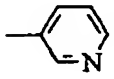
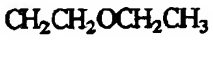
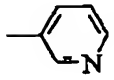
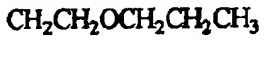
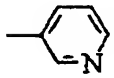
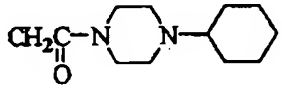
wherein T is oxygen or sulfur, G is ethyl or propyl.

10. (Original) The compound of Claim 1, which is represented by the formula:



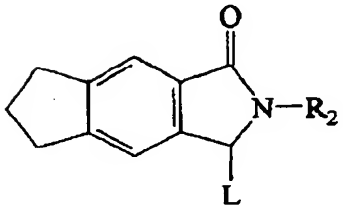
wherein R_2 and L are selected from the following combinations:

R_2	L
	
	
	
	
	
	
	

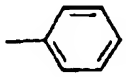
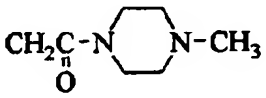
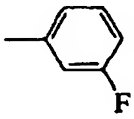
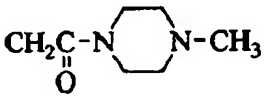
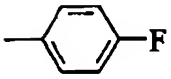
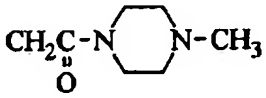
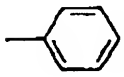
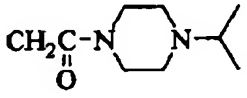
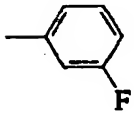
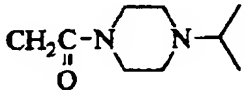
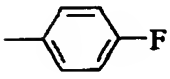
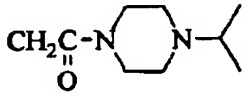
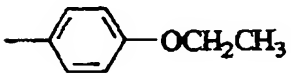
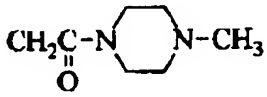
R2	L
	
	
	
	
	

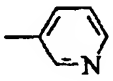
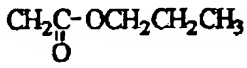
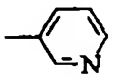
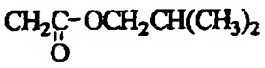
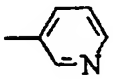
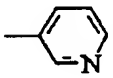
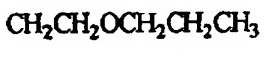
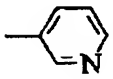
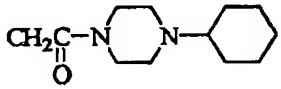
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. (Original) The compound of claim 1, which is represented by the formula:



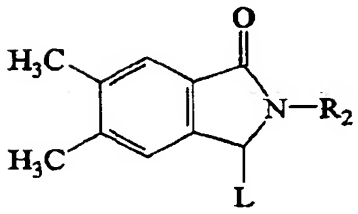
wherein R_2 and L are selected from the following combinations:

R_2	L
	
	
	
	
	
	
	

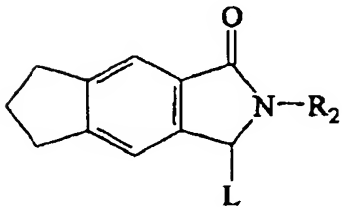
R2	L
	
	
	
	
	

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

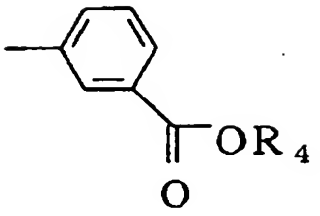
12. (Original) The compound of Claim 1 wherein represented by the formula



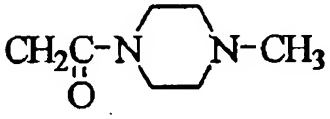
or



wherein R_2 is



wherein R_4 is selected from the group consisting of C1-5 alkyl, optionally substituted phenyl and optionally substituted benzyl, and L is



13. (Previously presented) An anesthetic composition for inducing sedative effect and anesthesia in a mammal, comprising an anesthetic effective amount of the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

14. (Original) The composition of Claim 13, which is for intravenous injection.

15. (Previously presented) Use of a compound of Claim 1 for manufacturing a pharmaceutical composition for inducing sedative effect and anesthesia in a mammal.

16. (Previously presented) A method for inducing sedative effect and anesthesia in a mammal, comprising the step of administering an anesthetic effective amount of the compound of Claim 1 to the subject in need of anesthesia.